

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of September, 1902.

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

There is nothing so sensitive to criticism as a brass band, excepting alone a prima donna.

Our nonresident congressman is not good at answering questions. His forties lie in using slang.

To the Honorable J. Frost, Esq.: Take your time. We are in no hurry to see you and your welcome will keep—King Corn.

Just because the Baptists have been holding sessions here is no reason why the weather man should keep the water colder.

King Ak-Sar-Bent's electrical parade will show President Roosevelt that the trolley can be made ornamental as well as useful.

That beef trust inquiry instituted by Missouri's attorney general is developing into a continued story, but without the usual climaxes to keep up the interest.

By hurrying home from Europe, Secretary of War Root may yet reach this side in time to approve the terms of peace between the sham battle combatants.

The sensational preacher who has no music in his soul is fit only for "treason, stratagems and spoils." At any rate, that is the opinion of the festival committee of the Omaha Auditorium association.

The call for the republican city primaries and convention is out. It provides for the simultaneous nomination of five candidates for the school board, but that is the only simultaneous feature the Merceries were able to engraft upon it.

If Mont Pelee doesn't let up pretty soon, the French West Indies will have to be taken off the international bargain counter and thrown into the junk pile. And Denmark's island possessions are also likely to suffer with the other perishable commodities.

Ex-Governor L. Bradford Prince of New Mexico, finding himself unable to attend the international mining congress in session at Butte, sent a resolution to be presented for him. A mining congress without ex-Governor Prince, represented in person or by proxy, would not be the real thing.

Local real estate men will formulate a few bills they would like to have enacted into law by the next Nebraska legislature. So will other local bodies press legislation which particularly concerns them. The coming bunch of lawmakers will have their hands full without bothering about anything but lawmaking.

We must all admit that Our Dave has been lavish with garden seeds and public documents furnished by the government. But to how many of Omaha's public enterprises has he contributed and how many of our charitable institutions has he helped support? Perhaps these questions suggest one reason why he never visits Omaha except when seeking reelection.

Governor Stone of Pennsylvania has come to the conclusion that an extra session of the legislature would be fully justified if there were any reasonable assurance that it could be legislation away for a settlement of the anthracite coal strike. The attitude of the governor indicates that he regards legislation only as a last resort. If the proper legislation were in force, requiring arbitration of labor disputes under prescribed conditions, the strike certainly would not have been carried to the extremes it has now reached.

LABOR IN THE PHILIPPINES.

The statement made by Governor Taft that commercial interests in the Philippines must ultimately rely upon native labor, although a temporary relaxation of immigration restrictions was possible, is regarded at Washington as rendering probable an amendment by congress extending the Chinese exclusion law to the Philippines. It is said that it will be proposed to modify the law passed at the last session of congress so as to provide for a regulated system of admissions of Chinese as plantation laborers under sufficient bonds in each case, with proper systems of identification and a condition that they shall leave the Philippines after a certain specified period of time.

The fact appears to be that the development of the islands must be greatly retarded if it is made to depend upon native labor. This is the view taken by the American Chamber of Commerce at Manila and by employers of labor generally in the Philippines. There is the very best authority that the Filipino is unwilling to work and will do so only under the most pressing conditions. All the testimony of those who are familiar with conditions in the islands is to this effect. A writer on the subject says: "Resources are here in abundance—rich soil, vast forests, rare woods. But workmen cannot be obtained to develop them. The Asiaties have never learned the Anglo-Saxon lesson of labor and thrift. The idea of toiling steadily eight or ten hours in the hot sun just for the sake of doing something or getting ahead in life has never occurred to them."

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Practical considerations alone should determine this question. If the industrial development of the Philippines, which is a matter of the first importance, will be retarded by the exclusion of Chinese labor, the law should be amended so as to admit that labor under proper regulations. It is easy to understand that a policy which may be desirable here will be utterly impracticable in the Philippines, so far as labor is concerned. The unquestionable fact seems to be that white labor cannot successfully be employed in the archipelago and native labor cannot be depended upon at present, though as Governor Taft suggested it may be ultimately.

In the meantime the material progress and prosperity of the islands requires the employment of Chinese labor and this should be provided for under suitable regulations.

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What better evidence than this could be desired of the great activity of domestic commerce and the general prosperity, for it is quite needless to say that a business which overtaxes the motive power of the railroads of the country means general prosperity. It is a situation as to which every citizen should feel great satisfaction and the continuance of which all should desire. The conservative manufacturer and merchant and the prudent workman should distrust those who in such circumstances counsel a radical change in our fiscal policy which would inevitably produce a revolution in the conditions which have given the country its exceptional business and prosperity.

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The campaign in Pennsylvania possesses rather more interest than usual this year by reason of the labor disturbance in that state and the democrats are hopeful of success in spite of the great republican majority to be overcome. The danger that confronts the republicans is a large defection of the labor vote. The organized railroad employes in the state, which number 68,000, are manifesting a disposition to support the democratic ticket and there appears to be good reason to expect that a very considerable number of them will do so. It is also highly probable that many of the anthracite coal miners will give their votes to the democratic candidates, hoping to thereby secure legislation more favorable to their interests.

The situation, therefore, is such that republican victory in Pennsylvania in November cannot be confidently predicted, although the chances are somewhat in favor of the republican party. The democratic gubernatorial candidate, who has twice been governor of the state, is unquestionably a popular man and is particularly strong with the working classes. It is believed that he will command the full democratic support and it is quite possible that he will get a large number of republican voters who are dissatisfied with the present republican administration and the so-called Quay machine, besides many votes from the working classes. Thus there is some warrant for regarding Pennsylvania as a doubtful state this year.

LACK OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES.

So great is business throughout the country that the railroads are having trouble in securing enough motive power to handle it, and it is believed, says the Philadelphia Press, that with the expected increase this autumn and winter many of the roads will be hampered in delivering goods. Vice President McCrea of the Pennsylvania company is reported as saying that the railroads have not enough motive power to handle the business and that there will be a further congestion of freight. While all the railroads have been increasing their motive power there is still an inadequate supply, according to this authority, and the prospect is that the needed motive power cannot be had for some time.

What better evidence than this could be desired of the great activity of domestic commerce and the general prosperity, for it is quite needless to say that a business which overtaxes the motive power of the railroads of the country means general prosperity. It is a situation as to which every citizen should feel great satisfaction and the continuance of which all should desire. The conservative manufacturer and merchant and the prudent workman should distrust those who in such circumstances counsel a radical change in our fiscal policy which would inevitably produce a revolution in the conditions which have given the country its exceptional business and prosperity.

The great transportation interests of the country were never more fully taxed than at present and the prospect is that during the next few months the demand upon them will be greater than they can meet.

POLICE BOARD OUT OF POLITICS.

When the present police commission was appointed by Governor Savage it was proclaimed with a grand flourish of trumpets that a signal victory had been won for municipal reform. Not only was Omaha to be given a general housecleaning by the suppression of gambling and vice, but the police and fire departments were to be divorced from politics and managed on strictly business principles. We ask in all candor, Have these expectations been realized?

The spirit that permeates the Mercer-Baldwin police commission was shown at the very outset of its career in the degradation of an old and tried police captain to walk a beat as patrolman without charges of any kind to make room for a political favorite and then within two weeks promoting him to be sergeant for long and faithful service and obedience to orders. These same police commissioners had subscribed to an official oath that "in making appointments or considering promotions or removals he will not